

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting for the above-referenced subcommittee held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, September 12, 2016 in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Councilors Joseph Washington, Leon Rivers and Joel Neuwirth

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck Jr., Town Manager, Chief Paul Hammick, Chief William Riley, Chief Robert Farmer, Pat Braun and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council.

Absent were: Councilors Derrick Seldon and Joseph Merritt

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Rivers and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of July 11, 2016.

POLICE

The police department closed the budget year in the black. FY 2016/2017 budget is on track.

Personnel Updates

The department has a total of 61 employees of which, there are 49 budgeted sworn officers. However, the department currently has 46 sworn police officers.

Recruitment

Officer Gerald Thomas retired on September 1, 2016.

Recruit Presley Stewart graduated from the Police Academy and is progressing on schedule with his field training.

Recruit Graham will graduate from the Police Academy on September 15, 2016. He will begin his field training, which is expected to last for approximately 12 weeks.

Recruit Jalisa Cuevas began the Police Academy on July 1, 2016 and has adjusted well thus far.

Officer Jeanine Allin began her employment with the police department, has adjusted and is doing exceptionally well.

Candidate Tiffany Allison was interviewed and given a conditional offer of employment as a Police Officer. Ms. Allison is currently completing background testing and has a tentative spot in the Police Academy for October 7, 2016.

Mr. Matthew Lacapruca was interviewed and given a conditional offer of employment as a police officer. Upon completing and passing background tests, Mr. Lacapruca has a tentative spot in the Police Academy for October 7, 2016.

Ms. Shimona Spears continues to do well in her full time position as a Dispatcher.

Ms. Mary Jane Romanos resigned her position as a part-time Dispatcher after 5 weeks. The department is currently reviewing backgrounds on other active pool candidates.

Chief Hammick noted that 7 officers are eligible to retire in 2016. The department conducted oral board interviews with non-certified officers. They are also actively recruiting for Police Cadets and non-anticipated promotions.

Crime

Chief Hammick reported that crime is down 3% for the month of August and 15% up year to date. He also noted that adult arrests have decrease by 20%.

In late August, there was a robbery at Dunkin Donuts on Blue Hills Avenue near Cottage Grove Road. The suspect was caught and apprehended in Hartford.

There was an increase of 3% with calls for service.

There was one citizen complaint in the month of August and six year to date. The investigation of this complaint is pending.

There were three incidents of use of force in the month of August and ten year to date. These incidents include use of firearm and tasers drawn. All complaints were reviewed and were in compliance.

Traffic Enforcement is well underway over the past 3 weeks with focus on Wadhams Road, Duncaster Road and Foot Hill Way for speeding. Officers issued 6 infractions during this time period, utilizing the new speed shield. This new equipment collects data on traffic and speed activity in designated areas of concern.

The department also conducted DUI details in mid-August. This activity was sponsored by the State of Connecticut – Department of Transportation.

Community Services

Chief Hammick attended the Conversation on Race held at the Senior Center in August. Chief Hammick stated that a follow up conversation is being coordinated with the Interfaith Alliance.

The department participated in meetings with Bloomfield High School – Student Advisory Council. Officer Courtney Danaher will be the new School Resource Officer (SRO) beginning in October 2016. Officer Danaher will be present at the high school 4 days a week.

Body Cameras

The department chose WatchGuard as the official vendor for body cameras. This equipment has been ordered and should arrive by November 2016. This timeframe will give the department time to plan and implement policies and procedures.

BVA

The EMT class began and there are currently 25 students enrolled, seven of which are town residents.

Ambulance 292 will receive the new power loader.

Sgt. Ellen White is currently working on updating the town's Emergency Operations Plan.

There is a recertification plan for EMT's beginning in October 2016.

There was an increase in revenue with EMT payments and collections. In addition, Chief Hammick is working with the Finance Department on suggestions in changing policies around collections of ambulance fees.

FIRE

Center Fire District

Chief William Riley thanked Blue Hills Fire Department for assisting in an Emergency Response Plan for the temporary closing of Wintonbury Avenue for one week.

Blue Hills Fire District

Chief Farmer reported approximate 45 calls for the month of August.

Chief Farmer also reported that he had two meetings with the City of Hartford – Fire Chief regarding mutual aid agreements in responding to major incidents.

It was noted that there have been “unruly” parties at 31 Tobey Road. The Fire Marshal was contacted and informed the owner of potential violations regarding occupancy standards.

The Equipment and Safer grants still pending approval.

Chief Farmer stated that he is working with Sgt. Ellen White of BVA and Ms. Lisa Johnston, Department of Public Health to explore the department in becoming medical backup to assist the community. Chief Farmer tailored their responses to the following items:

- Motor vehicle accident injuries
- Child birth
- Shortness of breathe
- AED’s

EMS

Mr. Pat Braun reported that the next EMS meeting will be held in September 19, 2016.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Rivers and voted unanimously to adjourn this meeting at 7:20 p.m.